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Dkt. 2271/71526

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

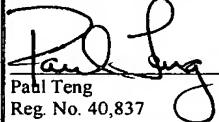
Application of: Masashi TAKUBO

Serial No.: 10/766,724

Date Filed: January 27, 2004

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR RELIABLE AND SECURE FACSIMILE COMMUNICATIONS, AND PROGRAM AND COMPUTER-READABLE MEDIUM STORING THE PROGRAM FOR RELIABLE AND SECURE FACSIMIE COMMUNICATIONS

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


Paul Teng
Reg. No. 40,837

August 10, 2004
Date

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to the applicant's duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the information identified herein are also provided.

The enclosed items were cited in a July 12, 2004 official Communication and European Search Report in connection with European Application No. EP 04 25 0261 which corresponds to the above-identified application. A copy of the July 12, 2004 Communication and European Search Report is also enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that the information cited in annexed Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, and that

such art be made of record in said application.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that these items are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of the particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

This Information Disclosure is submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3). To the best of Applicant's knowledge, a first Office Action on the merits has not been issued in this application.

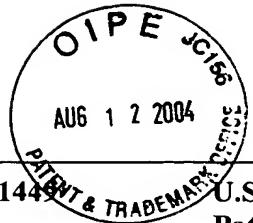
Alternatively, Applicant requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(1). The enclosed European Search Report and information cited therein was brought to Applicant's attention not more than three months ago.

However, the Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,



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***EXAMINER:** Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609: Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.